

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### Listing of Claims:

#### CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for screening a compound that is able to suppress aberrant immune activity, wherein the aberrant immune activity is selected from aberrant immune complex formation, aberrant immune complex clearance and immune complex induced inflammation, the method comprising the steps of:

- a. administering a compound to be screened to a ~~non-human-transgenic animal-rodent that has been modified to express~~ generated by transgenically modifying an embryo from a strain that is resistant to collagen-induced arthritis, such that said rodent comprises and expresses a transgene for human FcγRIIa receptor-such that, whereby the expression of said FcγRIIa renders the transgenic animal-rodent is-susceptible to an autoimmune disease; and
- b. assessing the transgenic ~~animal-rodent~~ to determine if the compound reduces aberrant immune activity in the ~~animal-rodent, wherein the non-human transgenic animal is resistant to collagen-induced arthritis prior to being modified to express the human FcγRIIa receptor.~~

2. (currently amended) A method of screening a compound that is able to suppress an autoimmune disease by suppressing aberrant immune activity selected from aberrant immune complex formation, aberrant immune complex clearance and immune complex induced, the method comprising the steps of:

- a. administering a compound to be screened to a ~~non-human-transgenic animal-rodent that has been modified to express~~ generated by transgenically modifying an embryo from a strain that is resistant to collagen-induced arthritis, such that said rodent comprises and expresses a transgene for human FcγRIIa receptor-such that, whereby the expression of said FcγRIIa renders the transgenic animal-rodent is-susceptible to an

autoimmune disease; and

b. assessing the transgenic ~~animal-rodent~~ to determine if the compound reduces aberrant immune activity in the ~~animal-rodent~~, ~~wherein the non-human transgenic animal is resistant to collagen-induced arthritis prior to being modified to express the human FcγRIIa receptor.~~

3. (currently amended) A method for screening a compound that is able to suppress an autoimmune disease, the method comprising the steps of:

a. administering a compound to be screened to a non-human cell expressing human FcγRIIa receptor, wherein the cell is derived from a ~~non-human-transgenic animal rodent that has been modified to express~~ generated by transgenically modifying an embryo from a strain that is resistant to collagen-induced arthritis, such that said rodent comprises and expresses a transgene for human FcγRIIa receptor such that, whereby the expression of said FcγRIIa renders the transgenic animal-rodent is susceptible to an autoimmune disease, wherein the non-human transgenic animal is resistant to collagen-induced arthritis prior to being modified to express the human FcγRIIa receptor; and

b. assessing the cell to determine if the compound reduces aberrant immune activity in the cell.

4. (cancelled)

5. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the method ~~includes the additional step of:~~

e. ~~comprises~~ comprises assessing the transgenic ~~animal-rodent~~ to determine if the compound reduces immune complex induced inflammation.

6. (cancelled)

7. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~non-human transgenic animal-rodent~~ is a transgenic mouse derived from the strains C57BL/6 and SJL, ~~that has been modified to express human FcγRIIa receptor.~~

8. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the compound reduces aberrant immune activity in the ~~animal~~-transgenic rodent by inhibiting the activity of FcγRIIa expressed in the ~~animal~~ rodent.

9. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein in step (b) the aberrant immune activity is assessed in terms of clinical symptoms and/or pathological features of an autoimmune disease.

10. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the autoimmune disease is selected from the group consisting of arthritis and systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE).

11. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the autoimmune disease is rheumatoid arthritis (RA).

12. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the autoimmune disease is collagen-induced arthritis (CIA).

13-42. (cancelled)